

Message Text

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USIA-15 OES-06 SS-15 SP-02 INT-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1984

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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TAGS: UN, ECOSOC, SENV, OCON

SUBJECT: UN WATER CONFERENCE PREPCOM - SUMMARY REPORT

REF: STATE 313215

1. SUMMARY: THE ONE WEEK SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES CONVENED TO CARRY OUT FINAL REVIEW OF PREPARATIONS FOR UN WATER CONFERENCE ENDED FRIDAY, JANUARY 7. THE COMMITTEE RECEIVED STATUS REPORTS FROM THE CONFERENCE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HOST COUNTRY (ARGENTINA); AND COMPLETED WORK ON THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE, RULES OF PROCEDURE, AND REVIEW OF PROPOSED DOCUMENTATION FOR THE CONFERENCE. DEBATE MOVED SMOOTHLY WITH THE ABSENCE OF CONTROVERSY. THE MOOD AT THE CLOSE WAS GENERAL SATISFACTION THAT THE COMMITTEE HAD DISCHARGED ITS PREPARATORY RESPONSIBILITIES AS WELL AS COULD BE EXPECTED (GIVEN THE TARDINESS OF MUCH UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THE DOCUMENTATION), TEMPERED BY CONTINUING UNEASINESS AND UNCERTAINTY ABOUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN ON POLITICALLY-SENSITIVE ISSUES AT THE MAR DEL PLATA MEETING NOW BARELY TEN WEEKS AWAY. SESSION HIGHLIGHTED A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT POLICY MATTERS TO WHICH THE US MUST GIVE SERIOUS ATTENTION PRIOR TO THE WATER CONFERENCE. THE US DELEGATION PLAYED AN ACTIVE ROLE IN SHAPING THE RESULTS OF THE PREPCOM AND

BRINGING DEBATE BACK ON COURSE WHEN MATTERS SEEMED TO GET OFF THE TRACK. END SUMMARY.

2. PREPCOM ORGANIZATION AND PARTICIPATION: THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR THE UNITED NATIONS WATER CONFERENCE, MET FOR ITS SECOND AND FINAL SESSION FROM JANUARY 3-7 TO REVIEW PREPARATIONS FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FROM MARCH 14-25, 1977 IN MAR DEL PLATA, ARGENTINA. ALL 50 MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WERE REPRESENTED. THE BUREAU FOR THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION WAS RELECTED BY' ACCLAMATION FOR PURPOSES OF CONTINUITY: CHAIRMAN - L.O. HARRIMAN (NIGERIA); VICE CHAIRMAN - J.P. BRUCE (CANADA), M. AL-BADRI (IRAQ), V. KRYZHANSKY (UKRAINIAN SSR); RAPPORTEUR - P. COMACHO (VENZUELA).

3. OPENING STATEMENTS: UN UNDER-SECRETARY GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (VAN LAETHEM) EMPHASIZED COMMONALITY OF WATER PROBLEMS FOR RICH AND POOR; THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE WATER CONFERENCE (MAGEED) REVIEWED PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES AND STATUS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN (HARRIMAN) WHO USEFULLY EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO MAINTAIN POLICY FOCUS OF CONFERENCE, AS OPPOSED TO A SCHOLARLY APPROACH, URGED THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO INTENSIFY THEIR WORK. HE ASKED FOR BROAD PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFERENCE AND ITS FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES. MAGEED'S STATEMENT HIGHLIGHTED COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLY AS A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE WATER CONFERENCE HAS BEEN SEIZED WITH HABITAT CONFERENCE RESOLUTION WHICH REQUESTS AN ACTION PLAN IN THIS AREA. MAGEED REFERRED TO NEED FOR WATER CONFERENCE UNCLASSIFIED

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TO AGREE ON "COMMITMENTS" TO ACHIEVE ACTION PROGRAM GOALS IN THIS AND OTHER MAJOR AREAS OF EMPHASIS.

4. HOST COUNTRY PREPARATIONS: CHAIRMAN OF ARGENTINA NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CONFERENCE (JAUREGUI) PRESENTED A VERY SHORT REPORT ON PREPARATIONS WHICH ADDED VIRTUALLY NOTHING TO WHAT US DELEGATION ALREADY KNEW. PREPARATIONS WERE DESCRIBED AS PROCEEDING "VIGOROUSLY AND SMOOTHLY," AND HE URGED COUNTRIES TO PARTICIPATE TO "HIGHEST LEVELS." HE NOTED THAT PARALLEL TECHNICAL SEMINARS AND THE CANCELLATION OF EXHIBIT. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION BY THE SOVIET DEL (WHICH INDICATED THAT ARE ALREADY WORKING ON FILMS AND AN EXHIBIT), JAUREGUI STATED THAT PROVISION WOULD BE MADE FOR COUNTRIES TO SHOW FILMS, AND THAT COUNTRIES SHOULD NOTIFY THE CONFERENCE SECRETARY IN THIS REGARD.

5. SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT: MAGEED PRESENTED COMMITTEE DOCUMENT (E/C.7/61) WHICH REVIEWED THE SPECTRUM OF PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES (REGIONAL MEETINGS; SPECIAL STUDIES

ON FOOD, WATER AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; AND CONFERENCE DOCUMENTATION). IN HIS REMARKS HE APOLOGIZED FOR THE TARDINESS OF THE DOCUMENTATION FOR THIS COMMITTEE SESSION, AND THE TOTAL UNAVAILABILITY OF SOME OF THE KEY ITEMS. (NOTE: THIS SITUATION HAD A MAJOR IMPACT ON THE NATURE OF THE WORK AND TONE OF THE PREPCOM WHICH FOUND ITSELF PRECLUDED FROM DEBATING THE SUBSTANCE OF THE WATER PROBLEMS AND ISSUES COVERED BY THE DOCUMENTS.)

AMBASSADOR MYERSON PRESENTED THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION'S MAJOR STATEMENT DURING DISCUSSION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT. (COPY POUCHED TO DEPT AND BUENOS AIRES.) THE MAJOR POINTS IN THE STATEMENT WERE:

(A) REFERENCE TO THE SPECTRUM OF CRITICAL WATER-RELATED PROBLEMS PLAGUING BOTH RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, E.G., DROUGHTS, FLOODS, WATER POLLUTION;
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(B) THE SERIOUSNESS AND THOROUGH MANNER IN WHICH THE US IS PREPARING FOR THE CONFERENCE;

(C) THE USEFUL ROLE BEING PLAYED BY US PRIVATE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS;

(D) THE IMPORTANCE OF FOCUSING THE CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL PROBLEMS OF WATER QUANTITY AND QUALITY, AND AVOIDING LOCALIZED POLITICAL ISSUES WHICH DRAIN ENERGY AND IDEAS AWAY FROM THE CENTRAL PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE;

(E) THE NEED TO ENSURE ADEQUATE LINKAGES WITH BOTH PAST AND FUTURE RELATED UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCES, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO THE FORTHCOMING DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE;

(F) RECOGNITION OF THE FACT THAT THIS IS A TIME OF BUDGETARY CONSTRAINT FOR THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM AND MEMBER STATES, AND THE CONSEQUENT NEED FOR THE CONFERENCE AND CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES TO BE CONCEIVED IN A MANNER TO PROMOTE EFFICIENCY AND COST SAVING.

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THESE VIEWS WERE SUPPORTED IN GENERAL STATEMENTS BY MOST WESTERN DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING FRANCE, ITALY, FRG AND UK. (ALSO INCLUDED IN THE UNITED STATES STATEMENT WERE SUGGESTIONS, LATER ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE, REGARDING ITS TREATMENT OF PREPCOM DOCUMENTATION.)

6. RULES OF PROCEDURE: THE DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE, AS CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT E/C.7/38/REV.1, WERE ADOPTED WITHOUT VOTE, FOLLOWING INCORPORATION OF THE CHANGES DESCRIBED BELOW. THE RULES WERE MODIFIED, AT THE REQUEST OF EGYPT, WITH RESPECT TO THE PARTICIPATION OF REPRESENTATIVES OTHER THAN STATES SO THEY NOW TRACK THE LANGUAGE OF THE HABITAT CONFERENCE RULES. THIS RULES 16 (GENERAL POWERS OF THE PRESIDENT) AND 18(3) (SPEECHES) WERE CHANGED IN THE APPROPRIATE PORTION TO READ "THE REPRESENTATIVE OF EACH PARTICIPANT IN THE CONFERENCE". RULE 21 (RIGHT OF REPLY) WAS ALSO AMENDED TO CONFORM TO THE HABITAT LANGUAGE, SO IT NOW INCLUDES AFTER THE FIRST SENTENCE, THE PHRASE
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"ANY REPRESENTATIVE MAY BE GRANTED AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A REPLY." FOLLOWING ADOPTION OF THE RULES, US REP MYERSON MADE THE FOLLOWING RESERVATION'S WHICH REFLECTED THE TENOR OF SEVERAL EARLIER INTERVENTIONS ON INDIVIDUAL RULES: " WE WILL NOT STAND IN THE WAY OF ADOPTION OF THE RULES. WE HAVE LOOKED AT THE CHANGES WITH REGARD TO RULES 16, 18 AND 21 AND HAVE AGREED TO THEM ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE LANGUAGE DOES NOT GO BEYOND THAT OF THE HABITAT

CONFERENCE. WE CONTINUE TO HAVE STRONG DOUBTS, INDEED RESERVATIONS, ABOUT GIVING OBSERVERS CONTINUED, EXPANDED ROLES. FOR EXAMPLE, IN DOING SO WE MAY FIND DIFFICULTIES IN FORMING SMALL WORKING GROUPS. OUR GOING ALONG WITH THE CONSENSUS DOES NOT REFLECT ANY CHANGES IN OUR POLICY REGARDING NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS."

THE OUTCOME OF THE PREPCOM ON OTHER PROCEDURAL MATTERS WAS POSITIVE. WITH REGARD TO RULE 29 (RECONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS) AND RULE 31 (MAJORITY REQUIRED)," THE TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY PRINCIPLE WAS RETAINED. (IN ESSENCE, THIS IS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RATHER THAN THE ECOSOC RULE.)

THE COMMITTEE ALSO DECIDED DELEGATIONS SHOULD HAVE NO MORE THAN FIVE ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVES, IN ADDITION TO THE HEAD OF DELEGATION (RULE 1, COMPOSITION OF DELEGATION), AND THERE WILL BE EIGHTEEN VICE PRESIDENTS (RULE 6, ELECTION). IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECISION, ARABIC WILL BE AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE CONFERENCE (RULE 45, LANGUAGES OF THE CONFERENCE).

7. CONFERENCE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK: THE DRAFT CONFERENCE AGENDA AS CONTAINED IN E/C.7/L.50 WAS APPROVED BY THE PREPCOM. THE DIVISION OF WORK, AS PROPOSED BY THE SECRETARIAT IN DOCUMENT E/C.7/L.51 WAS MODIFIED BY THE PREPCOM. A CONTACT GROUP WAS FORMED UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SWEDISH DELEGATE (DR. FALKENMARK) AND A REVISED DIVISION OF WORK WAS ADOPTED. THIS RETAINS THE TWO COMMITTEE UNCLASSIFIED

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CONCEPT AND MOST OF THE AGENDA SUB-ITEMS CONTAINED IN E/C.7/L.51; HOWEVER, IT REASSIGNS MANY OF THEM TO REFLECT A NEW CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK WHICH HAS ONE COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE I), DEALING WITH "WATER RESOURCES ASSESSMENT AND NEEDS" AND A SECOND COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE II), DEALING WITH "PLANNING, MANAGEMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS". GIVEN THIS REASSIGNMENT OF FUNCTION, IT WAS FELT THAT MOST OF THE DISCUSSION OF REGIONAL COOPERATION AND INTERNATIONAL ACTION WOULD NOW MOST APPROPRIATED FALL WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF COMMITTEE. IT WAS DECIDED, HOWEVER, THAT COMMITTEE I WOULD NOT BE PREVENTED FROM TREATING APPROPRIATE REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MATTERS, AND THAT PROVISION FOR LINKAGE BETWEEN COMMITTEES IN THESE INSTANCES SHOULD BE MADE. FURTHER, TO THE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE POSSIBILITY OF UNEVEN WORK LOADS, IT WAS DECIDED THAT SOME MECHANISM SHOULD BE AVAILABLE TO REASSIGN ITEMS, AS NECESSARY. (FYI. THIS MECHANISM WILL PROBABLY BE THE GENERAL COMMITTEE. END FYL.)

8. CONFERENCE DOCUMENTATION: THE PREPCOM LIMITED ITSELF TO REVIEWING THE TYPES AND STATUS OF DOCUMENTS

TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONFERENCE. THE FEW ATTEMPTS BY SOME COUNTRIES TO REQUEST SUBSTANTIVE MODIFICATION WERE REBUFFED BY A SOLID MAJORITY (INCLUDING THE US) WHICH FELT THAT THE PREPCOM SESSION WAS NOT INTENDED TO UNDERTAKE THIS TASK. FURTHER, MANY DELEGATIONS STATED THEY HAD INSUFFICIENT TIME TO STUDY THE DOCUMENTS. (WORKING PAPER NO. 1 LIST ALL CONFERENCE DOCUMENTATION.)

THE MAJOR ISSUES INVOLVED THE MATTER OF ACTION RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONFERENCE. WITH STRONG US SUPPORT, THE PREPCOM AGREED TO SEND DOCUMENT WHICH CONTAIN SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS FORWARD TO THE CONFERENCE WITH COMMENT THAT THEY WERE "NOTED" RATHER THAN "APPROVED." ALSO, THE SECRETARY GENERAL WAS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE A "GUIDE" OR "INDEX" TO DOCUMENT WITH ACTION PROPOSAL (A SPECIFIC US SUGGESTION) ALONG WITH A COMMENTARY THAT CLEARLY STATES UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT THERE WERE A VARIETY OF SOURCES OF POSSIBLE PROPOSAL WHICH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AT THE CONFERENCE, INCLUDING PROPOSALS WHICH MAY BE SUBMITTED BY COUNTRIES DURING THE CONFERENCE ITSELF.

9. SPECIAL WATER FUND: ONE RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED IN E/C.7:L.52 (THE DOCUMENT WHICH CONSOLIDATES RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETINGS) DID ATTRACT SOME SPECIFIC COMMENT. THE ECA REGIONAL MEETING (SEE E/CONF.70/9) RECOMMENDED CREATION OF AN "INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ACCELERATING THE PROVISION OF WATER TO THE RURAL AREAS IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES." A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES VOICED CONCERN (THE US, UK, NETHERLANDS, USSR, FRANCE, POLAND, GDR, FRG, JAPAN, CANADA) ABOUT THE WISDOM OF APPROVING YET ANOTHER FUND. THEY REQUESTED THAT THESE CONCERNS BE TRANSMITTED TO THE CONFERENCE, SPECIFICALLY CALLING ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT OTHER FINANCING OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. (FYI. NO COUNTRY CAME TO THE DEFENSE OF THE PROPOSED NEW FUND AT THE PREPCOM. END FYI.)

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10. NEW INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES
COUPLED THEIR CONCERN ABOUT FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS WITH
STATEMENTS ABOUT THE NEED TO AVOID CREATING ANY NEW
INSTITUTIONS, PARTICULAR IN VIEW OF THE EFFORTS TO
RESTRUCTURE THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SECTORS OF THE UN.
THERE WERE NUMEROUS REFERENCES TO THE NEED FOR NEW NATIONAL
AND REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR TRAINING, RESEARCH, ETC.
WHICH ARE SPRINKLED THROUGHOUT THE CONFERENCE DOCUMENTATION.
NO PROPOSALS HAVE SO FAR BEEN PUT FORWARD FOR A MAJOR NEW
WATER INSTITUTION OR AGENCY REORGANIZATION WITHIN THE UN
SYSTEM. THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION AND
THE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATION BOARD JOINTLY PROPOSED CREATION
OF AN "INTERAGENCY WATER RESOURCES BOARD" WITHIN THE ACC AS
PRESENTED IN THE ANNEX TO E/C.7/L.52. THERE WAS LITTLE
DISCUSSION, OR INDEED ENTHUSIASM, FOR THIS CONCEPT
AMONG THE DELEGATIONS, APART FROM THE FACT THAT IT IS
MODEST AND THEREFORE BETTER THAN WHAT MANY FEARED WOULD
BE PRESENTED. THERE ARE APPARENTLY DIFFERENCES OF VIEW
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AMONG THE UNAGENCIES WHICH DEVELOPED THE PROPOSAL: UNESCO
AND WMO BELIEVE STRONGER COORDINATION IS REQUIRED; FAO FEELS
IT CANNOT FUND ITS PROPOSED PARTICIPATION ON THIS BOARD;
CNRET BELIEVES IT SHOULD BE WATER COORDINATOR; AND UNEP
LIKES STATUS QUO. (THE US WILL HAVE TO DEVELOP A CAREFULLY
THOUGHT-OUT POSITION ON THIS MATTER FOR THE CONFERENCE.)

11. SHARED WATER RESOURCES: BILATERAL DISPUTES OVER
BOUNDARY WATERS WERE NOT RAISED EXPLICITLY AT THE PREPCOM.
ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL JOUSTED OVER THE PRECISE LANGUAGE ON
SHARED NATURAL RESOURCES, AND WHETHER INVITATIONS TO

PARTICIPATE IN THE CONFERENCE SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASIN COMMISSIONS. THE SECRETARIAT LATER ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THEY HAD ALREADY EXTENDED INVITATIONS TO SEVERAL BASIN COMMISSIONS WHICH HAD ASKED FOR THEM. THE BANGLADESH DELEGATE WAS THE MOST DIRECT OF ANY SPEAKER ON THIS GENERAL TOPIC, WITHOUT REFERRING TO THE DISPUTE WITH INDIA. HE CALLED FOR THE CONFERENCE TO DEAL WITH THE NEED TO CREATE AN INTERNATIONAL REGIME FOR HANDLING DISPUTES OVER SHARED WATER RESOURCES.

12. SECRETARIAT'S PERFORMANCE: ALTHOUGH DELEGATIONS WERE CHARITABLE IN THEIR STATEMENTS -- DUE IN LARGE PART TO THE FACT THAT SECRETARY GENERAL MAGEED IN RELATIVELY NEW ON THE SCENE -- THERE WERE MANY REFERENCES TO THE SECRETARIAT'S FAILURE TO PREPARE AND DISTRIBUTE DOCUMENTATION ON A TIMELY BASIS. PRIVATELY, THERE WAS GENERAL CONCERN ABOUT THE QUALITY AND TIMELINESS OF DOCUMENTATION AND THE SECRETARIAT'S FAILURE TO KEEP ALL CONCERNED INFORMED. (ENZO FANO IS CLEARLY THE PRINCIPAL ORGANIZER NOW THAT OLIVER HAS LEFT.)

13. PERFORMANCE OF COUNTRY DELEGATIONS: PRINCIPAL CONTRIBUTORS TO THE OVERALL DEBATE WERE (IN ADDITION TO THE US): SWEDEN, UK, FRANCE, USSR, POLAND, YUGOSLAVIA, NORWAY, THE NETHERLANDS, CANADA, ARGENTINA AND EGYPT. UNCLASSIFIED

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BRAZIL AND BANGLADESH INTERVENED MAINLY TO PURSUE NARROW INTERESTS. THE REMAINDER MAINTAINED LOW PROFILES WITH COMMENTARY GENERALLY RESERVED FOR A SINGLE OVERVIEW STATEMENT. JAPAN, FOR EXAMPLE, USED A SINGLE INTERVENTION TO STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF CONFERENCE AND TO ADMONISH AGAINST ANY NEW FUNDS OR INSTITUTIONS. PANAMA WAS SILENT.

BRUCE (CANADA) WAS EXCELLENT AS VICE CHAIRMAN AND CHAIRMAN OF THE INFORMAL GROUP ON ACTION PROPOSALS. FALKENMARK (SWEDEN) WAS ONE OF THE LEADING FIGURES AND CHAIRED THE GROUP ON CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION. THERE IS SOME INTEREST WITHIN WEO GROUP TO NOMINATE HER FOR RAPPORTEUR GENERAL FOR THE WATER CONFERENCE, DESPITE THE FACT THIS WOULD MEAN THAT THE WEO REGION PROBABLY WOULD NOT CHAIR ANY OF THE MAJOR CONFERENCE COMMITTEES OR HOLD OTHER OFFICES. THE UK AND CANADA NONETHELESS PLAN TO PROMOTE FALKENMARK. (FYI. GIVEN THE REASSIGNMENT OF AGENDA ITEMS, IT MAY BE THAT THE REPORTEURSHIP OR CHAIRMANSHIP OF COMMITTEE I WILL BE MORE CRUCIAL TO US THAN THE RAPPORTEUR GENERAL. END FYI.)

14. US DELEGATION RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. NUMEROUS INFORMAL REFERENCES TO THE IMPENDING CHANGE IN THE US ADMINISTRATION STRENGTHENS THE VIEW THAT COUNTRIES WILL BE LOOKING TO WATER CONFERENCE FOR SIGNS OF NEW US INTERESTS AND DIRECTIONS ON NORTH-SOUTH MATTERS. THE US IMAGE AND SUCCESS OF THE CONFERENCE WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY ENHANCED IF WE ARE ABLE TO PRESENT ONE OR TWO MEANINGFUL INITIATIVES. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE TRANSITION PRESENTS PROBLEMS IN THIS REGARD, BUT RECOMMEND PROMPT WASHINGTON CONSIDERATION.

2. IN DEVELOPING US POSITIONS, SPECIAL ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE ISSUES OF: (A) SPECIAL FUND AND OTHER FINANCING OPTIONS; (B) INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS
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WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM; (C) RIVER BASIN DISPUTES, AND THE CONCEPT OF AN INTERNATIONAL REGIME. SPECIFICS OF LAST ISSUE WILL BE ADDRESSED IN SEPTTEL.

3. US SHOULD INFORM WEO MEMBERS AND OTHER SELECTED COUNTRIES PRIOR TO CONFERENCE OF ANY PROPOSALS WE PLAN TO MAKE, AND SEEK REACTIONS AND SUPPORT.

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4. INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS INDICATE THAT THOSE FEW COUNTRIES WITH FIRM PLANS INTEND TO SEND DELEGATIONS HEADED BY MINISTERS, OF INTERIOR, AGRICULTURE OR IRRIGATION AND HYDROPOWER. EARLY EXPECTATIONS OF DELEGATION SIZE ARE: CANADA (20); SWEDEN (20); FRG (15); UK (8-10).

5. US SHOULD INFORM THE SECRETARY GENERAL (AFTER FEBRUARY 22) THAT IT WISHES TO BE INSCRIBED ON THE LIST OF SPEAKERS FOR THE GENERAL DEBATE AT THE CONFERENCE. (FYI. AT PAST CONFERENCES OUR PREFERENCE HAS BEEN TO SPEAK ON THE FIRST MORNING OF THE GENERAL DEBATE, BUT NOT AS FIRST SPEAKER. END FYI.) ALSO, IF WE WOULD LIKE TO SHOW FILMS AT THE CONFERENCE, THE SECRETARIAT SHOULD BE NOTIFIED.
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN WATER CONFERENCE PREPCOM - SUMMARY REPORT
TAGS: SENV, OCON, AR, UN, ECOSOC
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